Package: dateback (via r-universe)

October 17, 2026

Type Package

Title Collect and Install R Packages on a Specified Date with Dependencies

Version 1.0.5-999

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Description Works as a virtual CRAN snapshot for source packages. It automatically downloads and installs 'tar.gz' files with dependencies, all of which were available on a specific day.

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Encoding UTF-8

URL https://github.com/r-suzuki/dateback

Repository https://r-suzuki.r-universe.dev

Date/Publication 2024-05-02 08:46:37 UTC

RemoteUrl https://github.com/r-suzuki/dateback

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha eabebc4d70c106f130bcb6b49b64e71a41450f1e

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`install` *Collect and install source packages on a specified date with dependencies*

Description

Collect and install source packages on a specified date with dependencies.

`install()` automatically downloads and installs `tar.gz` files with dependencies, all of which were available on a specific day.

Downloaded contents are saved in `outdir` (if set) which can be used as a local repository for `install.packages()`.

Use `collect()` to create a local repository without installation. See the example for details.

Usage

```
install(pkgs, date,
        lib = .libPaths()[1],
        repos = "https://cloud.r-project.org",
        dependencies = c("Depends", "Imports", "LinkingTo"),
        skip_installed = TRUE,
        skip_recommended = FALSE,
        outdir = NULL,
        overwrite = FALSE,
        ...
  )

collect(pkgs, date, outdir,
        repos = "https://cloud.r-project.org",
        dependencies = c("Depends", "Imports", "LinkingTo"),
        skip_installed = FALSE,
        skip_recommended = TRUE,
        overwrite = FALSE
  )
```

Arguments

`pkgs`	character vector of the names of packages.
`date`	character specifying a date in `YYYY-MM-DD` format. It tries to find the latest version of source packages on this date.
`outdir`	character specifying the output directory path. In `install()` it can be `NULL` to use a temporary directory. It will contain downloaded source packages, and can be used as a local package repository. See the example for details.
`repos`	CRAN mirror URL such as `https://cloud.r-project.org`.
`lib`	character vector of the library directories used in `install.packages()`.

dependencies — character vector of the dependency level for additional downloads. It can include c("Depends", "Imports", "LinkingTo", "Suggests").

skip_installed — logical. If TRUE it does not collect files for packages already installed.

skip_recommended — logical. If TRUE it does not collet files for "recommended" packages.

overwrite — logical. If TRUE it overwrites existing files in outdir.

... — Arguments to be passed to install.packages()

.

Value

data.frame containing information about collected packages. Please notice that it is intended for logging, and the structure of this object may change in future releases.

Note

This package was originally developed to (partially) substitute the "CRAN Time Machine" (or "MRAN Time Machine"), which retired in July 2023 (https://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2023/01/mran-time-machine-retired.html).

Posit Package Manager (https://packagemanager.posit.co/) has a snapshot feature, so can be used as a direct replacement for CRAN Time Machine. Windows/Mac users would greatly benefit from it since binary packages are also available.

Examples

```
## Not run:

# Install 'ranger' package and its dependecies on the date 2023-03-01
dateback::install(pkgs = "ranger", date = "2023-03-01")

# Collect packages and install them later (maybe on another system)
dateback::collect(pkgs = "ranger", date = "2023-03-01", outdir = "local_repo")
install.packages(pkgs = "ranger", repos = "file:local_repo")

## End(Not run)
```

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